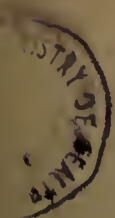


11.441 2 (1)

Library



Rural District of Maidstone



Annual Report for the Year, 1965

ON

THE HEALTH OF THE  
RURAL DISTRICT OF MAIDSTONE

BY THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

F. H. M. DUMMER,

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.



RURAL DISTRICT OF MAIDSTONE

---

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR, 1965

ON

THE HEALTH OF THE

RURAL DISTRICT OF MAIDSTONE

BY THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

F.H.M. DUMMER,  
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.



MAIDSTONE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Public Health Committee

Chairman

Mr. A.E. Fullagar

Vice-Chairman

Colonel H.M. Allfrey

Members

C.G. Allchin  
K.C. Banks  
P.A.E. Devenish  
Mrs. A. Granycome  
G.F. Gray  
J.A.R. Hall  
Mrs. N.D. Herbert

W.J. Holding  
Mrs. H.A. Ireland-Blackburne  
T.W. Kemsley  
P. Morphett  
J.L. Short  
Captain L.M. Stopford  
T.J. Thompson

Public Health Officers of the Rural District Council :

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

Dr. F.H.M. Dummer,  
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

Dr. J.T. Cecil,  
M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR :

G.W. White,  
M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.,  
Public Health Inspectors'  
Certificate,  
Certificate of Inspector of  
Meat and Other Foods, and  
Smoke Inspectors' Certificate.

FIRST ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR :

F.O. Elliott,  
M.A.P.H.I.,  
Public Health Inspectors'  
Certificate,  
Certificate of Inspector of  
Meat and Other Foods.

SECOND ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR :

J. Barrow,  
M.A.P.H.I.,  
Public Health Inspectors'  
Certificate,  
Certificate of Inspector of  
Meat and Other Foods.

CLEANSING FOREMAN :

A.E. Wallace.

CLERKS TO THE DEPARTMENT :

Mrs. M.J. Butcher,  
(Resigned 7/10/65).  
Miss D. Fuller,  
(Commenced 22/11/65)  
Miss E. Gibbins.

SECRETARY TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF  
HEALTH :

Miss H. Wood.





RURAL DISTRICT OF MAIDSTONE

Central Health Department,  
13, Tonbridge Road,  
Maidstone.

Public Health Department,  
26, Tonbridge Road,  
Maidstone.

Telephone: Maidstone 54072

Telephone: Maidstone 56871

To: The Chairman and Members of Maidstone Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my ninth Annual Report on the health of the Rural District of Maidstone.

There are several points in this report which show the Rural District in a very favourable light as far as its health is concerned.

Among the factors which are taken to be indices of the health of a district are the annual birth rate; the annual death rate; the annual tuberculosis death rate; and the infantile mortality rate. As far as the birth rate of your District is concerned, this has reached a high level at 24.13 per thousand of the population. The death rate is very low indeed at 3.95. The tuberculosis death rate this year is nil, and the infantile mortality rate, at 9.22, has reached the lowest level yet recorded in your district.

On all of those counts therefore, the health of Maidstone Rural District can be said - in a community sense - to be good.

We must, however, be realistic in a more detailed analysis of some of the highlights of the health picture. For example, we find that in 1965 the number of deaths from cancer rose to the highest figure which it has reached since 1958, i.e., 54 deaths. In an analysis of these deaths, those from cancer of the stomach more than doubled, and deaths from cancer of the breast considerably increased. Unexpectedly one finds that cancer of the lung as a cause of death diminished, there being 9 cases in 1965 against 15 cases in 1964. In all other sites, however, cancer proved an increasing cause of death. The only cheerful aspect about this picture of malignant disease is that the deaths occurred outside the younger age range, and no death from cancer in your district occurred in a person under the age of 45; the majority of the cases being over the age of 65.

I would like to take this opportunity of bringing to your attention the fact that although the number of new cases of tuberculosis remained at a very low level, the amount of work involved in tracing cases through contacts is very considerable. When a single new case occurs, the epidemiological investigation of this case covers an extraordinarily wide field, and it may be that a dozen or more people are investigated for suspicious signs of tuberculosis because of this one case. The figures on tuberculosis therefore, as far as new cases are concerned, do not in any way give a realistic picture of the work of the Chest Clinic.





In the pages that follow you will find an account of the general work of the Public Health Department. Considerable time and trouble has been taken this year in trying to improve the condition of the cleansing services. There are many snags involved in trying to establish a service which will please all ratepayers. You will see from Mr. White's report that his difficulties are numerous and not least because of the large amount of time which is lost by holidays, sickness, and absenteeism, coupled with the fact that there has actually been a decrease in the number of people employed in the cleansing service as compared with 1964.

One of the most important decisions of the Council was the agreement to implement a paper sack refuse collection in 1966, and we may find that this has a significant effect on the standard of refuse collection in your District.

The cleansing services can certainly not be considered the most glamorous aspect of local authority work, but the Public Health Committee and the Council as a whole have recognised the fundamental importance of these services and every attempt has been made - as will be seen throughout this report - to try to bring the standard up to as high a practicable level as possible.

You will note too, that despite extensions in the sewerage service, there is still a very large amount of work being done in cesspool emptying. It would seem that no matter how widespread is the application of main drainage, the cesspool emptying service is here to stay with us for a considerable time.

A glance at the summary of inspections will show you something of the over all nature of the work of the Public Health Department and the amount of labour which has gone into the supervision of your essential services. To take only a few instances at random, you will see that the number of visits paid in respect of improvement grants and Building Byelaws amounted to the high total of 1,289; the number of visits under the Food and Drugs Act was 322; and the supervision of caravan sites accounted for no less than 269 visits.

What might be called "routine work" accounts for a considerable part - in fact by far the major part - of the time of the Inspectorate and there is little time left indeed for anything which may turn up as an emergency. You will well understand therefore that with such a small staff, when a great deal of time does have to be spent on an emergency, there must be a serious back log of work to be caught up.

I am very pleased indeed to report the continued co-operation and assistance of Mr. White, your Senior Public Health Inspector, and the Inspectorate staff, and indeed the co-operation of all Departments of the Council. We need from time to time a little encouragement, and this we have had in fair measure from the Public Health Committee and indeed from the whole Council. We have tried to work in a team spirit and I think you will agree from the Report in the pages which follow that a considerable amount of team work has been effected.

I have the Honour to be,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

F.H.M. DUMMER

Medical Officer of Health.

31st May, 1966.

Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2017 with funding from  
Wellcome Library.

<https://archive.org/details/b29780299>

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres) .. .. .	34,487
Estimated resident population (1965) .. .. .	23,800
Number of inhabited houses (according to rate books) at the end of 1965 .. .. .	8,076
Rateable value at the end of 1965 .. .. .	£734,527
Sum represented by a penny rate .. .. .	£2,912

-----

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Live Births .. .. .	277	265	542
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population ..	crude	-	22.77
	corrected	-	24.13
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births			4.42
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Stillbirths .. .. .	5	6	11
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 live and still births			19.89
Total live and still births .. .. .			553
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Infant deaths (deaths under 1 year) ..	3	2	5
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births			9.22
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births			7.72
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births			41.66
Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)			5.51
Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)			5.51
Perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths)			25.31
Maternal mortality (including abortion) .. .. .			Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births .. .. .			-
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deaths .. .. .	153	135	288
Death rate per 1,000 population .. .. .	crude	-	12.10
	corrected	-	8.95
Death rate for England and Wales .. .. .			11.5





## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

### School Health Service

The School Health Service with school inspections and clinics, the Maternity and Child Welfare Service and the Domiciliary Midwifery Service, are now administered by the Kent County Council and are controlled by the County Medical Officer.

### Hospitals

The general hospitals in the area are now administered by one Central Kent Hospital Management Committee, and Preston Hall Hospital Management Committee has been merged in that body. There are, of course, in addition separate Management Committees for Oakwood Hospital and Leybourne Grange Hospital.

The hospitals in general use are Linton Hospital, the West Kent General Hospital, Fant Lane Hospital, the Kent County Ophthalmic and Aural Hospital and Preston Hall Hospital. Use is also made of Lenham Chest Hospital and the hospitals covered by the Tunbridge Wells Group including, particularly Pembury Hospital and the Kent & Sussex Hospital at Tunbridge Wells.

There is now no infectious diseases hospital in this area, and cases in the meantime have to be sent primarily to Joyce Green Hospital, Dartford, which entails a fairly long journey. Although representation has been made to the Regional Hospital Board on this question, there is very little likelihood of improved facilities for infectious diseases being available for this area before the new district hospital - scheduled for after 1970 - is built in the Maidstone area. This will, it is understood, include a wing for infectious diseases.

Since the publication by the Ministry of Health in 1962 of "A Hospital Plan for England and Wales", many discussions have taken place on local requirements and at the present time the whole subject is under continuous review. It has, however, been decided to support the Minister of Health's proposal that the site of the new district hospital should be Preston Hall.

### Domestic Help Service

This service is administered by the County Council and is of great value in providing care for aged and disabled patients and thus relieving pressure on the available hospital beds. I often find that by the judicious use of this service, elderly people are given the advantage of essential domestic help, thereby tiding them over a difficulty which, in other circumstances, would undoubtedly require hospitalisation.





INFECTIOUS AND OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

ANALYSIS IN AGE GROUPS

DISEASE	Under 1	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-45	46-65	66 & over	TOTAL
Scarlet fever	-	4	1	8	1	-	-	-	-	14
Whooping cough	2	7	5	3	-	-	1	-	-	18
Measles	15	101	111	251	11	5	4	-	-	498
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Ophthalmia neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid fevers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	-	4
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anthrax	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	17	112	117	262	12	7	7	2	1	537

A very large increase took place in the number of notifiable infectious diseases during the year, but this was mainly because of the biennial incidence of measles which amounted to 498 cases out of a total notification of 537. The number of cases of dysentery fell from 33 last year to 1 in 1965.

Once again there were no cases of diphtheria, poliomyelitis or smallpox notified throughout the year.



INFECTIOUS AND OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

MONTHLY DISTRIBUTION

DISEASE	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	TOTALS
Scarlet fever	-	-	2	-	8	-	1	-	3	-	-	-	14
Whooping cough	-	-	2	1	1	3	1	1	-	2	4	3	18
Measles	23	129	129	143	42	24	2	3	-	2	-	1	498
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Ophthalmia neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid fevers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	-	-	-	4
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anthrax	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	23	129	133	144	51	28	5	5	7	4	4	4	537



### POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

The following table shows the poliomyelitis vaccination figures for 1965 based on the return submitted to the Ministry of Health.

YEAR	3rd and 4th Dose (Salk and Oral)	3 Orals (Complete Course)
1965	1	103
1964	-	294
1963	1	38
1962	-	13
1958 - 1961	253	17
1949 - 1957 Others under 16 yrs	45	7
TOTALS	300	472

During the year 773 persons completed an oral course of poliomyelitis vaccination, or had the third and fourth doses of a Salk and oral combined course. 9,684 persons in the Rural District have now had a complete course of vaccine.

The scheme is still restricted to persons up to the age of 40 years, but even allowing for this there is a large number who could still take advantage of this vaccination.

I would remind the public that poliomyelitis vaccination is free and has no after-effects.







### IMMUNISATION

The following table shows the diphtheria immunisation figures for 1965, based on the return sent to the Ministry of Health.

Year of Birth	Primary		Reinforcing	
	Triple	Diph/Tet	Triple	Diph/Tet
1965	218	9	2	-
1964	224	15	13	7
1963	16	1	132	26
1962	4	2	48	8
1961	4	1	8	3
1958 - 1960	3	1	83	169
1949 - 1957	-	-	4	8
TOTALS	469	29	290	221

This year the table for immunisation has been somewhat altered, and we now deal with triple immunisation which includes protection against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus, and the dual immunisation against diphtheria and tetanus.

The number of primary immunisations has risen from 464 in 1964 to 498 in 1965. Similarly the reinforcing injections have increased from 377 last year to 511 in the current year. This is a reasonable record of immunisation, but it is only by the maintenance of this curtain of protection that we can with any assurance be able to have a feeling of security against the onslaughts particularly of diphtheria which can be a very virulent disease. The importance of reinforcing injections against diphtheria cannot be over emphasised.



### SMALLPOX VACCINATION

The following table shows the smallpox vaccination figures for 1965, based on the return submitted to the Ministry of Health.

Owing to the new arrangements made by Kent County Council, the following figures are the only statistics now available on smallpox vaccination.

PRIMARY VACCINATION 1 YEAR	RE-VACCINATION SCHOOL AGE BUT UNDER 8 YEARS
365	1

The records of vaccinations supplied now by the County Council are only those which apply to primary vaccinations carried out under the County Council's own arrangements, and re-vaccinations carried out between the ages of 5 and 8 years.

I am therefore not in a position to know the total numbers in either category. The statistics, although they are submitted to you, are in my opinion not of much value, but they are presented to you merely because they are a return which is sent to me by the County Medical Officer.

I would, however, stress that it is of value to have infants vaccinated against smallpox, and for people who are going abroad to maintain their state of protection by re-vaccination at intervals of three years.

In 1964 the number of primary vaccinations was 256. In 1965 it was 365.

It is important to remember that restrictions on entry into foreign countries very often come into operation at extremely short notice. It is therefore of benefit to all travellers abroad to ensure that they have valid International Certificates of Vaccination, and this means that the certificate must bear a date not more than three years from the date of the proposed journey.



# TUBERCULOSIS

I am indebted to Dr. D.L. Pugh, the Chest Physician, for the following details of the number of contacts of known cases of tuberculosis examined during the year, and the number found to be suffering from tuberculosis. These figures related to the area of the Chest Clinic, which corresponds with the area of the four authorities, Maidstone Borough, Maidstone R.D., Hollingbourn R.D., and Malling R.D.

- (a) Number of contacts seen during 1965, of newly notified cases of tuberculosis .. .. . 275
- (b) Number of contacts, seen during 1965, of cases notified prior to 1965 .. .. . 562
- (c) Number of contacts in (a) found to be suffering from pulmonary or non-pulmonary tuberculosis Nil
- (d) Number of contacts in (b) found to be suffering from pulmonary or non-pulmonary tuberculosis 2
- (e) Arising out of School Heaf Positive contact 2

-----

AGE GROUPS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 - 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 34	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 44	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 54	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 64	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-

This year there were no deaths recorded from tuberculosis, an unusual instance indeed and one which does have considerable significance in emphasising the loss of priority this disease has attained in the last few years.

The number of new cases is very small at 3 - a drop from 7 last year.







# CANCER

The number of deaths from cancer in the Maidstone Rural District during the past ten years is given below :-

1956	..	..	..	59
1957	..	..	..	55
1958	..	..	..	42
1959	..	..	..	47
1960	..	..	..	51
1961	..	..	..	52
1962	..	..	..	45
1963	..	..	..	49
1964	..	..	..	50
1965	..	..	..	54

Deaths from cancer in 1965, distributed according to sites :-

Site	Male	Female	Total
Cancer of stomach	2	3	5
Cancer of lung, bronchus	8	1	9
Cancer of breast	1	8	9
Cancer of uterus	-	-	-
Other sites	11	20	31
TOTALS	22	32	54

Deaths from cancer in 1965, distributed according to age groups :-

Age Groups	Male	Female
0 - 4	-	-
5 - 14	-	-
15 - 24	-	-
25 - 34	-	-
35 - 44	-	-
45 - 54	2	2
55 - 64	6	5
65 - 74	10	13
75 and over	4	12
TOTALS	22	32



## FOOD POISONING

During 1965 only four cases of food poisoning were formally notified, although four further cases were discovered during the course of investigation. In all, three families were affected.

In two instances it was clear that the infection had been contracted whilst the families were on holiday abroad. In the remaining family one child became ill whilst at a Girl Guide camp and the infection spread to other members of the family when she returned home.

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 AND 1951

It was not found necessary during 1965 to obtain Magistrates' Orders to admit to hospital any elderly persons who were infirm and unable to care for themselves properly.

## THE PUBLIC HEALTH (INFECTIOUS DISEASES) REGULATIONS, 1953

It was not necessary during the year to issue any restrictive Notices under these Regulations in order to prevent the spread of infection through the handling of food.



INFANT MORTALITY, 1965

CAUSE OF DEATH	Under 1 week	1 - 2 weeks	2 - 3 weeks	3 - 4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3 - 6 months	7 - 9 months	10 - 12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
Congenital abnormalities	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Haemorrhage (accident)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Prematurity	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Toxaemia and myocardial failure	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
TOTALS	3	-	-	-	3	-	1	1	-	5

The infantile mortality for the district for 1965 has reached the lowest level yet recorded, at 9.22 per thousand total live births. This is very considerably beneath the figure for England and Wales at 19.0 per thousand.

In considering this figure too, we must take into account the fact that of the 5 infants who died, 2 died in the first week of life from congenital abnormalities which were unavoidable, and one was an instance of extreme prematurity.

I should, however, give the usual warning that here we are dealing with very low figures indeed and although the small number involved reflects great credit on the ante-natal and delivery care of mothers, a minor variation either side would make another year's figure disproportional.





TOTAL DEATHS, 1965

Cause	Male	Female
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	1	1
4. Diphtheria	-	-
5. Whooping cough	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis	-	-
8. Measles	1	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	3
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	8	1
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	1	8
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	11	20
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-
16. Diabetes	2	2
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	14	25
18. Coronary disease, angina	35	19
19. Hypertension with heart disease	1	1
20. Other heart disease	13	12
21. Other circulatory disease	4	6
22. Influenza	-	1
23. Pneumonia	8	1
24. Bronchitis	15	1
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	2	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	2
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	1	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	1	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	20	25
33. Motor vehicle accidents	3	-
34. All other accidents	5	1
35. Suicide	2	1
36. Homicide and operations of war	1	1
TOTALS	153	135



DEATHS PER MONTH IN EACH PARISH

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	TOTALS
Barming	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	1	7
Bearsted	2	4	2	1	4	2	6	3	3	5	4	2	38
Boughton Monchelsea	2	-	-	3	1	1	-	-	1	6	1	1	16
Coxheath	4	4	9	9	5	6	7	8	5	5	2	6	70
East Farleigh	-	1	3	1	3	2	2	-	2	2	2	-	18
West Farleigh	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	4
Hunton	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	3
Linton	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	5
Loose	3	2	3	-	1	1	-	2	1	2	1	5	21
Marden	3	2	1	6	-	2	2	2	1	2	4	9	34
Nettlestead	4	2	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	4
Otham	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3
Staplehurst	1	4	7	4	4	4	4	1	2	4	1	7	43
Teston	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	5
Yalding	2	2	1	1	1	1	3	-	2	1	2	1	17
TOTALS	21	22	32	27	19	23	24	20	18	29	18	35	288

The parish of Coxheath contains a hospital of 326 beds, including 69 beds for Part III accommodation under the Kent County Council.



## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA

### Sanitary Inspection of the Area

Your Senior Public Health Inspector has furnished the following details of work which comes under his direct day to day control.

This year has not presented any unusual problems and the work of the department has continued without serious disruption. Nevertheless, it should be noted that a considerable amount of additional inspection has been required to implement the relatively new Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act legislation.

Public cleansing and refuse collection has created perhaps the greatest problems during the year and this is due, without doubt, to the numerous labour difficulties encountered. These services alone have required considerable attention from the Public Health Inspectorate in dealing with the day to day problems and public complaints on such occasions as they occurred.

Further comment on other aspects of departmental work are made under the respective headings.





## WATER SUPPLIES

With the exception of two complaints during the year of 1965, there is every indication that the supply has been satisfactory, both in quality and quantity. There still remains a small number of properties in the area not connected to a mains supply provided by either the Mid Kent Water Company or the Maidstone Waterworks Company. In each case, this is due to the isolated nature of the properties concerned.

Sampling of water supply to the area continues to be carried out as a routine measure by the Water Companies involved, samples being obtained at the source of supply and point of distribution. All sources of supply are outside the Maidstone Rural District with the exception of the East Farleigh Pumping Station. Samples are being taken of the raw water and water following treatment prior to supply, these samples being submitted for bacteriological examination and chemical analyses. A typical result from a chemical analysis is as follows :-

### Chemical Examination (Results expressed in parts per million)

Solids in Solution	(Dried at 180°C)	.. .. .	532
Solids in Solution	after ignition	.. .. .	421
Chlorides as Chlorine	.. .. .	.. .. .	46
Carbonate Hardness	as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	.. .. .	210
Non-Carbonate Hardness	as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	.. .. .	142
Total Hardness	as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	.. .. .	352
Total Alkalinity	as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	.. .. .	210
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	.. .. .	.. .. .	0.02
Albuminoid Nitrogen	.. .. .	.. .. .	Not detected
Nitrate Nitrogen	.. .. .	.. .. .	9.0
Nitrite Nitrogen	.. .. .	.. .. .	Not detected
Oxygen Absorbed in 15 minutes at 27°C	.. .. .	.. .. .	0.08
Oxygen Absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C	.. .. .	.. .. .	0.12
Toxic Metals	.. .. .	.. .. .	Not detected
Residual Chlorine - Free	.. .. .	.. .. .	Not detected
Iron	.. .. .	.. .. .	0.07

Opinion : The water is normal and satisfactory for a public supply and fit for domestic uses.

During the year additional routine water samples have also been collected by your Public Health Department. These samples were obtained from the supply provided by the Water Companies main. Additional to these samples, suspect supplies were tested from the following sources :-

- (1) Pump drawing from well
- (2) Private pond
- (3) Pump from well
- (4) Domestic supply containing extraneous matter and insects.

- (1) In this case the supply was drawn by pump from a well and it was determined that the pollution was created by the inadequate drainage system which served the property. Subsequently, the well in question was sealed and an alternative water supply provided until such time as the premises were closed under slum clearance procedure.
- (2) In relation to the water sampled from the pond, this did not involve a drinking water supply and advice was requested after pollution causing loss of fish and prior to re-stocking.



- (3) In this case the supply from the well was not the sole supply of water to the property. Samples indicated pollution and the matter was resolved by sealing of the pump in question.
- (4) Where complaints were received concerning insects in the supply, several samples were taken both by the department and the Water Company concerned and both departments were ultimately convinced that no pollution existed in the mains supply, but was due to interference by the occupants of the house.

Examination of Water Supplies during the year :-

	Bacteriological Examination			Chemical Examination		
	No. of Samples	Satisfactory	Not Satisfactory	No. of Samples	Satisfactory	Not Satisfactory
Statutory supply undertakings	8	7	1	1	1	-
Private sources pipe to dwellings	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other private sources	2	-	2	-	-	-





The following table gives indication of (a) the number of dwelling houses and (b) the number of the population supplied from public water mains :-

Parish	Houses Supplied (a)	Estimated Population (b)
Barming	255	1,000
Bearsted	1,294	3,775
Boughton Monchelsea	422	1,180
Coxheath	846	3,030
East Farleigh	410	1,235
West Farleigh	151	445
Hunton	183	525
Linton	168	535
Loose	682	2,030
Marden	889	2,530
Nettlestead	201	715
Otham	120	340
Staplehurst	1,147	3,280
Teston	215	705
Yalding	882	2,475



Information obtained from the Water Companies indicate that some 337 additional premises within the area have been provided with a mains water supply. The service to these additional properties has involved the Water Companies in laying 6,207 yards of new water main. Indication of the size of mains laid are contained in the following table :-

Parish	Yards	Size	Water Company
Barming	215	3"	Maidstone Waterworks Company
"	179	4"	" " "
"	756	6"	" " "
"	80	9"	" " "
Bearsted	374	3"	" " "
"	668	4"	" " "
"	489	6"	" " "
Coxheath	18	3"	" " "
"	489	4"	" " "
East Farleigh	228	4"	" " "
Loose	39	3"	" " "
"	259	4"	" " "
Marden	60	3"	Mid Kent Water Company
Staplehurst	119	3"	" " " "
Yalding	430	3"	" " " "
"	1,804	4"	" " " "

#### The Fluoride Content of Water Supplies

The fluoride content is negligible and is less than 0.1 parts per million.

#### Swimming Baths

Primary schools situated within the parishes of Staplehurst and Marden are provided with swimming pools for the use of children. These swimming pools were kept under supervision during their use.



## REFUSE AND PUBLIC CLEANSING SERVICES

The following is a general report on both services and, as in the previous year, the shortage of labour has proved to be the major difficulty in maintaining the regular service previously provided.

### Manpower

The establishment in connection with the Public Cleansing Services consists of 31 men employed as follows :-

22 men on refuse collection  
1 tractor driver engaged on the refuse tip  
8 men on cesspool emptying

Towards the end of 1965 further reorganization of crews and area produced a weekly service in 95% of the district and the remaining 5% receive a 14 day collection, this percentage involving outskirt properties.

It is of importance to note that in the 12 month period covered by this report approximately 500 new dwellings were erected within the Maidstone Rural District area. It will be quite obvious that such an increase has made an immediate impact upon the service and created additional difficulties in ensuring a weekly service for the majority of these properties which are in the more urbanized parts of the area.

As previously mentioned, the difficulties experienced with labour has presented a constant problem. To give some indication of the extent of this, the following data will be of interest :-

<u>Labour Turnover</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>
Employed during the year	21	19
Employees leaving during the year	14	17
<u>Holidays</u>	183 days	160 days
<u>Sickness</u>	151 days	242 days
<u>Absenteeism</u>	39 days	55 days

The statistics given indicate a deterioration in the situation and, although there appears to have been less time taken in holidays in 1965 as opposed to the previous year, this is only due to the fact that several of the employees were unable to take their holiday entitlement for the year until the months of January, February and March, 1966, which will be the subject of next year's report.

As a result of recommendations made to the Council, it has been agreed to implement a paper refuse sack collection system during 1966 with the object of alleviating the labour situation in addition to offering a more hygienic method of collection.





In addition to the facts mentioned above, it should not be overlooked that there have also been occasions when it has not been possible to put vehicles into service due to accidents and repairs and maintenance. Also, throughout the year there have been considerable periods when it has not been possible to engage replacements for staff leaving without a time lag of several weeks. The success achieved in face of these many difficulties is due in no small measure to those men who have worked for the Council throughout the year and to the considerable efforts of Mr. F.C. Elliott, First Additional Public Health Inspector, who has had to devote a large part of his time to these duties and, also, the Cleansing Foreman, Mr. A.E. Wallace.

#### Abandoned Vehicles

During the year 12 abandoned vehicles were dealt with under the Removal of Vehicles (England and Wales) Regulations, 1961. As forecast, the problem is beginning to increase and is, perhaps, to be expected where rural woodland is situated within close proximity of populated areas. Disposal has to be effected by the employment of scrap metal firms, involving the Council in irrecoverable expenditure. There is very little doubt that the real solution to this must be the provision of centralized collection areas whereby the problem can be dealt with on a national or county level.

Facilities are provided for the public to dispose of old vehicles on the refuse tip at a nominal charge. However, there seems to be some reluctance on the part of the public to deliver their old vehicles for this form of disposal.

#### Bulky Refuse

Special collections have been arranged throughout the year to remove items which cannot normally be collected by the refuse collectors during their normal routine. In almost every instance these collections have to be arranged on an overtime basis in the evening or on a Saturday as the service permits. The income received from special collections during the year amounted to £84. 13. 0.

#### Litter Bins

62 litter bins are situated at various points throughout the rural district. Problems do present themselves as regards to emptying, as the litter bins appear to be used extensively and very often can be filled to overflowing within hours of being emptied. In many instances the litter bins have been badly damaged by vandals and a considerable amount of money would be required to maintain the containers in a sound condition at all times.

#### Salvage

The collection of waste paper for salvage purposes has been continued. Collectors have been encouraged by the Council offering, during the year, to give 50% of the income received to the men concerned. Response to this incentive has not been as great as one would have hoped, but it must be borne in mind that with the labour difficulties and staff shortages previously mentioned, the main objective from the administrative point of view has been towards maintaining the refuse collection service which is a more essential task. The income received from salvage during the year was £176. 3. 9.



## Refuse Disposal

Disposal is carried out in the Laddingford area by the controlled tipping method. The Drott Tractor/Excavator has enabled effective control to be maintained and has considerably improved the appearance of the tip.

Industry continues to require disposal facilities for trade refuse. During the year the income derived from this source amounted to £692. 1. 8.

## General

It may be of interest, in connection with the refuse service, that during the period 1st January to 31st December, 1965, refuse was collected from some 441,334 premises involving a mileage of 60,489 for collection and disposal.

## Cesspool Emptying

During part of the year four cesspool tankers were in service and this, combined with the completion of the Boughton Monchelsea main drainage scheme, afforded a welcome relief to a somewhat strained service. Nevertheless, difficulties were encountered for a major portion of the year when it became necessary to use cesspool tanker crews to supplement the deficiencies in the refuse collection labour force. It is anticipated that improvement will take place in 1966, following the completion of the Teston and Nettlestead main drainage system.

During the period 1st January to 31st December, 1965, the following loads were dealt with :-

8,596

## Drainage and Sanitation

The scheme providing main drainage within the parish of Boughton Monchelsea was completed during 1965. Further progress was made in providing main drainage systems within the parishes of Teston, Watlington and Nettlestead. It is estimated that these schemes will be completed during 1966.

## Rivers and Streams

Pollution does occur in various waterways within the area attributable to overflowing cesspools and direct discharge of sewage from some parishes. On completion of the main schemes referred to the major sources of pollution will be eliminated.





## SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

### HOUSING

Number of houses inspected	..	..	..	..	..	123
Number of other visits under Housing Acts	..	..	..	..	..	219
Number of drains tested	..	..	..	..	..	80
Number of drainage visits	..	..	..	..	..	584
Number of visits made in respect of Improvement Grants and Building Byelaws	..	..	..	..	..	1,289
Number of visits made under the Rent Act	..	..	..	..	..	1

### FOOD AND WATER

Number of Slaughterhouse and meat inspection visits	..	..	..	..	..	339
Number of visits re Water Supplies	..	..	..	..	..	111
Number of visits re Milk and Dairies	..	..	..	..	..	7
Number of visits re Food and Drugs Act	..	..	..	..	..	322

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Number of visits re Infectious Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	185
---	----	----	----	----	----	-----

### GENERAL - PUBLIC HEALTH

Number of visits under the Public Health Acts	..	..	..	..	..	367
Refuse disposal and collection	..	..	..	..	..	3,449
Accumulations	..	..	..	..	..	17
Cleansing	..	..	..	..	..	264
Clean Air Act	..	..	..	..	..	24
Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960	..	..	..	..	..	269
Hop Pickers' Camps	..	..	..	..	..	110
Factories Act	..	..	..	..	..	68
Shops Act	..	..	..	..	..	191
Rodent Control	..	..	..	..	..	212
Removal of Vehicles (England and Wales) Regulations, 1961	..	..	..	..	..	32
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	98
Diseases of Animals and Waste Food Order Visits	..	..	..	..	..	2
Verminous premises visited	..	..	..	..	..	-
Interviews with Builders, Architects, Owners, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	352
Collection and delivery of samples to Public Health Laboratory	..	..	..	..	..	64
Revisits to premises under notice	..	..	..	..	..	89
Animal Boarding Establishments Act	..	..	..	..	..	13
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	..	..	..	..	..	217
Noise Abatement Act	..	..	..	..	..	4
Scrap Metal Dealers Act	..	..	..	..	..	5

Total	..	..	9,107
-------	----	----	-------



General Report on Departmental Work and  
Comparison of Summary Figures with 1964

This year has seen a slight increase in the number of visits and inspections carried out. The total in 1964 was 8,932 and 9,107 in 1965.

No particular aspect of the departmental work has been neglected, but it will be seen from the statistics that visits connected with Improvement Grants, Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, interviews, refuse disposal and collection, account for an increasing amount of the routine work. However, it has become apparent that saturation point has been reached and it would be impossible to increase the scope of the departmental work without an increase in both clerical and technical staff.

Towards the close of the year the Council decided to engage a Trainee Public Health Inspector during 1966, and, although some benefit to the department will be apparent, it should not be overlooked that the primary purpose is instruction, thereby making it necessary for the existing inspectorate to devote some of their time to the Pupil Inspector's training.



## GENERAL STATISTICS

### HOUSING

Informal Notices served	..	..	..	..	..	..	65
Statutory Notices served	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Notices completed	..	..	..	..	..	..	59

### HOUSING DEFECTS REMEDIED AND IMPROVEMENTS

Walls and ceilings	..	..	..	..	..	..	30
Rising and penetrating dampness remedied	..	..	..	..	..	..	27
Repairs to external walls	..	..	..	..	..	..	20
Repairs to defective windows and doors	..	..	..	..	..	..	26
Chimney stacks repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
General repairs to roofs	..	..	..	..	..	..	31
Provision for food storage	..	..	..	..	..	..	43
Repairs to staircases	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Repair or renewal of fireplaces	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
Cooking facilities provided and/or repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	20
Repointing to brickwork	..	..	..	..	..	..	20
Repair or replacement of floors	..	..	..	..	..	..	31
Provision of adequate ventilation	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Provision of adequate lighting	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Enlargement of window areas	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
Provision of fuel storage	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Provision of dustbin	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Decoration	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
Provision of hot water supply	..	..	..	..	..	..	51
Provision of baths and bathrooms	..	..	..	..	..	..	47
Provision of wash hand basins	..	..	..	..	..	..	49
Provision of damp proof course	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Provision of adequate water supply	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

### DRAINAGE

Provision of septic tanks	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Provision of cesspools	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Repairs to eaves guttering	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
Sinks provided and/or repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
Repairs to closets	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Provision of inspection covers	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Provision of flush closets	..	..	..	..	..	..	49
Repairs to drains	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Provision of new drainage	..	..	..	..	..	..	49





## HOUSING

I	1 (a)	Inspections of dwelling-houses during the year. Total number of houses inspected for housing defects, (under Public Health or Housing Acts) .. .. .	123
	(b)	Number of inspections made for that purpose	1,631
	2 (a)	Number of dwelling-houses, (included under sub-section 1 above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 .. .. .	0
	(b)	Number of inspections made for that purpose	0
	3 (a)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation .. .. .	7
	4 (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation .. .. .	71
	II	Remedy of Defects during the year, without the service of formal notice.	
	1 (a)	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority .. .. .	54
	III	Action under Statutory Powers during the year.	
	A	Proceedings under section 9 of the Housing Act, 1957.	
	1	Number of dwelling-houses in which notices were served requiring repairs .. .. .	5
	2	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after the service of formal notices - a - By Owners .. .. .	5
		b - By Local Authority in default of owners .. .. .	0
	B	Proceedings under the Public Health Acts.	
	1	Number of houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .. .. .	1
	2	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices - a - By Owners .. .. .	1
		b - By Local Authority in default of owners .. .. .	0



C	Proceedings under the Housing Act, 1957.	
1	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ..	3
2	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	2
3	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made .. ..	3
4	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit .. .. .	3
IV	Housing Act, 1957, Part 4 Overcrowding.	
A (1)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year .. .. .	4
(2)	Number of families dwelling therein ..	5
(3)	Number of persons dwelling therein ..	32
B (1)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year .. ..	1
C (1)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year .. ..	4
(2)	Number of persons concerned in such cases .. .. .	28
D	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding .. .. .	0





## Comparison of Summary Figures with 1964

1965 required no extensive slum clearance programme. Any properties requiring action under the Housing Acts were dealt with individually on considering the particular circumstances. At the close of the year there were still a number of families which had not been re-housed although the premises which they occupy had been included on the slum clearance programme in previous years.

There has been a continuance during the year for property owners to take advantage of the Improvement Grants. Invariably improvements have been carried out in conjunction with essential repairs and thus the standards and general condition of housing within the district have been maintained to a reasonable level.

Improvement schemes carried out on properties within the area have resulted in the provision of the following amenities :-

43	Ventilated food stores
51	Hot water supplies
47	Baths and Bathrooms
49	Wash hand basins
49	Water closets

The following details regarding the various types of Improvement Grant will be of interest. As previously mentioned in the report, it can be appreciated that each application involves a great deal of time with the applicant, architect and builder throughout all stages and many visits are required to ensure the approved works comply with the Council's Building Byelaws, now superseded by the Building Regulations.

Applications for Grant have increased from a total of 43 approved in 1964 to 55 in 1965. This has resulted in the improvement of 49 dwellings as against 35 in 1964.

### General Statistics regarding Improvement Grants made by this Council

Total amount approved by the Council up to the 31st December, 1965 :-

Discretionary Grants	..	£76,631
Standard Grants	..	£27,333
		<hr/>
Total	..	£103,964
		<hr/>



# IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

## Standard

					Owner/Occupiers	Tenanted
1. No. of applications Received	43				28	15
" " " Approved	43				28	15
" " " Refused	-				-	-
2. No. of dwellings improved	32				24	8
3. Amount paid in Grants	..	..	..	..	£4,997. 15. 0.	
4. Average Grant per house	..	..	..	..	£156. 3. 7.	
5. Amenities provided (a) fixed bath						27
(b) shower						-
(c) wash hand basin						29
(d) hot water supply (to any fittings)						30
(e) water closet (1) within dwelling						28
(2) accessible from dwelling						-
(f) food store						25

## Discretionary

					Owner/Occupiers	Tenanted
1. No. of applications Received	13				7	6
" " " Approved	12				7	5
" " " Refused	1				-	1
2. No. of dwellings improved	17				5	12
3. Amount paid in Grants	..	..	..	..	£5,560. 0. 0.	
4. Average Grant per house	..	..	..	..	£327. 1. 0.	



### INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Visits made by Inspectors    ..    ..    ..    ..    ..    185

Reports made to M.O.H. on cases of reported infectious diseases :-

Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Food Poisoning	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Sonne Dysentry	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Contacts of confirmed case of Typhoid					..	..	4

Statistics this year indicate a smaller number of reported cases to the previous year.

As a result of investigations a number of visits to the Public Health Laboratory at Preston Hall were required for the routine collection and delivery of bacteriological samples.





# FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES

Factories with mechanical power	..	..	..	..	79
Factories without mechanical power	..	..	..	..	2
Inspections of Factories with mechanical power	..	..			66
Inspections of Factories without mechanical power	..				2
Inspections of Builder's sites for Sanitary Accommodation					18
Inspections of closed Factory premises or premises with no employees	..	..	..		0
Factories with mechanical power - Informal Notices served					10
Factories with mechanical power - Informal Notices completed					10
Factories without mechanical power - Informal Notices served					1
Factories without mechanical power - Informal Notices completed					1
Statutory Notices served	..	..	..	..	0

It has not been necessary to serve any formal notices under the Factories Act legislation. Minor defects noted were drawn to the occupiers attention on an informal basis and any requirements carried out without the necessity for further action.

Outworkers premises inspected during the year revealed no adverse conditions.



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1965  
FOR THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF MAIDSTONE  
IN THE COUNTY OF KENT

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration  
of the Factories Act, 1961

PART I OF THE ACT

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ..	2	2	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .....	79	48	1	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).....	16	18	-	-
TOTAL	97	68	1	-

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-





Particulars  (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted  (6)
	Found  (2)	Remedied  (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector  (4)	By H.M. Inspector  (5)	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	3	3	-	1	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	7	7	-	2	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	10	10	-	3	-



## PART VIII OF THE ACT

## Outwork

(Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of work  (1)	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133(1)(c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Wearing) Making apparel) etc.,	2	-	-	-	-	-
) Cleaning	-	-	-	-	-	-
) and	-	-	-	-	-	-
) Washing	-	-	-	-	-	-
Household linen	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lace, lace curtains and nets	-	-	-	-	-	-
Curtains and furniture hangings	2	-	-	-	-	-
Furniture and upholstery						
Electro-plate						
File making						
Brass and brass articles						
Fur pulling						
Iron and steel cables and chains						
Iron & Steel Anchors & Grapnels						
Cart gear						
Locks, Latches and keys						
Umbrellas, etc.						
Artificial flowers						
Nets, other than wire nets						
Tents						
Sacks						
Racquet and tennis balls						



## PART VIII OF THE ACT (Cont'd.)

## Outwork

(Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of work  (1)	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133(1)(c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Paper bags						
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper						
Brush making						
Pea picking						
Feather sorting						
Carding, etc., of buttons, etc.						
Stuffed toys						
Basket making						
Chocolates and sweetmeats						
Cosaques, Christmas stockings, etc.	3					
Textile weaving						
Lampshades						
TOTAL	7	-	-	-	-	-





# CAMPING SITES AND CARAVANS

<u>Site</u>	<u>Proprietor or Owner</u>	<u>Maximum Number of Caravans</u>
Enterprise Caravan Site, East Farleigh	Mr. E.L. Paine	25
Hartridge Farm Caravan Site, East Farleigh	Mr. K.A. and Mrs. M.R.G. Chambers	46 - 110
The Retreat, Nettlestead	Mrs. P. Lamb	60
Slaughterhouse Lane, Staplehurst	Mrs. G.N. Russell	2

## Caravan Sites for Seasonal Use Only

Enterprise Caravan Site, East Farleigh	Mr. E.L. Paine	15
Medway Wharf Site, Nettlestead	Mr. A.C. Buffery, Medway Wharf Ltd.	10
Twyford Boat Yard Site, Yalding	Mr. D.S. Chuter, 102, Blithdale Road, Abbey Wood, S.E.2.	18
Hampstead Cottage Farm Site, Yalding	Hampstead Cottage Caravan Park Ltd., 141, Stamford Hill, London, N.16.	38

## Summary of data

Number of inspections	.. .. .	269
Number of licensed sites	.. .. .	8
Applications for licences	.. .. .	2
Applications for licences refused	.. .. .	0

Routine visits have been made to the registered caravan sites throughout the year. No major contraventions occurred relating to the site licences issued.

Ownership of the Hampstead Cottage Farm site changed and the conditions on this particular site were improved by the new owners.



### HOP PICKERS' CAMPS

Total number of Hop Pickers' Camps in use	..	..	47
Number of huts in use (estimated)	..	..	741 + 60 caravans
Estimated number of pickers	..	..	1,540
Number of inspections	..	..	110

This year has seen a further reduction in the number of hop pickers' camps in use and the number of persons occupying such camps. Inspections involved visits to some 45 farms involving 47 individual camps. The reduction is due, without doubt to the modernisation and mechanisation within the farming industry. Visits were made to the camps concerned during occupation, and at the close of the season, to ensure that vacation had taken place after the 30th November.

It is estimated that some 1,540 pickers were involved and that there has been an increased tendency to supplement hut accommodation with caravans, there being approximately 60 caravans involved in this particular year.

Several contraventions of byelaws were noted this year, mainly relating to unsatisfactory sanitary accommodation and arrangements for refuse disposal. All remedial works were carried out, with the exception of one farmer. This case was reported to the Public Health Committee and a strong warning letter was sent indicating that the particular premises would receive close scrutiny in the 1966 hop picking season.

### CLEAN AIR ACT

Routine observations of industrial plant were taken during the year. Two complaints concerning premises were received and in these particular cases negotiations with those concerned eliminated the cause for complaint.

### ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT

At the present time there are 5 establishments registered under the above legislation. Routine visits are made and, in particular, before registration renewal, special attention being paid to the welfare of the animals and the conditions under which they are housed.





## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD PREMISES

### Number of Food Premises in the District

Cafes and Restaurants	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Food Shops (excluding butchers)			..	..	..	..	90
Dairies	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
Butchers' Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
Licensed Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	59
Total							175

### Number of Visits and Inspections

Cafes and Restaurants	..	..	..	..	..	..	41
Food Shops (excluding butchers)			..	..	..	..	184
Dairies	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Butchers' Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	30
Licensed Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Total							269

Routine inspections have been made to all types of premises throughout the year. This year has seen a reduction in the total number of visits made, but this is due to last year's concentrated efforts which were required at the time of the Aberdeen typhoid outbreak.

In general, the standard of hygiene and cleanliness in food premises has been maintained.

### SHOPS ACT

Number of Shops (including Public Houses)	..	..	216
Number of Inspections re Shops Act (including Public Houses)	..	..	191

During the year 1965, 191 inspections were made of shops within the district to check compliance with the provisions of the Act.

Two complaints were received during the year concerning trading outside of the permitted hours and these were resolved by informal action with the premises concerned.

### Contaminated Foodstuff

During the year a few complaints were received concerning cracked milk bottles. This particular problem was discussed very fully with the producers concerned and a more rigorous system of inspection implemented by them in an attempt to eliminate similar complaints in the future.



## SHOPS ACT

### Contaminated Foodstuff

A further complaint was received concerning a can of luncheon meat which contained a foreign body. On analysis the object involved was proved to be farinaceous matter which was not harmful.

Detailed reports concerning both incidents were referred to the Public Health Committee and on these occasions it was decided that no legal actions should be instigated.

### MILK SUPPLIES

Number of registered distributors	..	..	..	..	34
Number of registered dairies	..	..	..	..	Nil

The responsibility for the sampling of milk supplies at retailers' premises is the responsibility of the Kent County Council.

Statistics submitted by the Kent County Council indicated that some 57 samples have been obtained from retailers within the Maidstone Rural District.

There are now no registered dairies within the Maidstone Rural District area as every small dairyman has been taken over by large combines operating from centralized depots.

### OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT

Inspections under the above legislation which relates to cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature, ventilation, lighting, sanitary conveniences, washing facilities, drinking water, accommodation for clothing, seating arrangements and safety provisions, have increased considerably over the number of inspections made during 1964.

The majority of inspections involved have been carried out by Mr. J. Barrow, Additional Public Health Inspector. It is fitting to give credit to the efficient manner in which this work has been accomplished, particularly in view of the necessary interpretations required of the copious legislation and the great deal of time which must be spent explaining all the requirements of the Act to the occupiers of the premises concerned. A copy of the report sent to the Minister of Labour is as follows :-



THE OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY  
PREMISES ACT, 1963

TABLE	TOTALS	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
A	Offices		16	87	89
	Retail shops		2	17	17
	Wholesale shops, warehouses		13	64	66
	Catering establishments open to the public, canteens		-	1	1
	Fuel storage depots		1	5	5
			-	-	-
	Registrations and general inspections	Class of premises	Number of premises registered during the year	Total number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year

TABLE B - Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to registered premises

217

	Class of workplace (1)	Number of persons employed (2)
TABLE C  Analysis of persons employed in registered premises by workplace	Offices	75
	Retail shops	215
	Wholesale depts., warehouses	13
	Catering establishments	
	open to the public	13
	Canteens	-
	Fuel storage depots	-
	Total	316
	Total Males	121
	Total Females	195







TABLE D - Exemptions

Class of premises  (1)	No. of exemptions current at 31st December  (2)	No. of exemptions granted or extended during the year  (3)	No. of applications refused or exemptions withdrawn during the year  (4)	No. of cases in Cols. (3) and (4) where employees opposed application  (5)	Appeals to Court against refusal to grant or extend an exemption or against the withdrawal of an exemption	
					No. made (6)	No. allowed (7)
Offices Retail shops Wholesale shops, warehouses Catering establishments open to public, canteens Fuel storage depots	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>
Offices Retail shops Wholesale shops, warehouses Catering establishments open to public, canteens Fuel storage depots						
Offices Retail shops Wholesale shops, warehouses Catering establishments open to public, canteens Fuel storage depots						
Offices Retail shops Wholesale shops, warehouses Catering establishments open to public, canteens Fuel storage depots						



### SLAUGHTERHOUSES

Number of licensed slaughterhouses .. ..	2
Number of premises cleansed during the year .. ..	2

### MEAT INSPECTION

<u>Slaughterhouse</u>	<u>No. of carcasses slaughtered</u>	<u>Per Cent</u>
West End, Marden .. ..	1,022	73.7%
High Street, Staplehurst .. ..	367	26.3%
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total ..	<u>1,389</u>	<u>100%</u>

#### Total carcasses examined

	Pigs	Sheep	Calves	Cows	Other Bovine	Total
No. examined	504	659	3	0	223	1,389
No. passed	437	623	2	0	173	1,235
Completely condemned	0	0	0	0	0	0
Partially condemned	67	36	1	0	50	154

#### Tuberculosis

	Pigs	Sheep	Calves	Cows	Other Bovine	Total
No. examined	504	659	3	0	223	1,389
Completely condemned	0	0	0	0	0	0
Partially condemned	1	0	0	0	0	1

#### Other Diseases

	Pigs	Sheep	Calves	Cows	Other Bovine	Total
No. examined	504	659	3	0	223	1,389
Completely condemned	0	0	0	0	0	0
Partially condemned	66	36	1	0	50	153



SLAUGHTERHOUSES IN DETAIL

	Pigs	Sheep	Calves	Cows	Other Bovine
High Street, Staplehurst -					
No. examined	241	34	2	0	90
Completely condemned	0	0	0	0	0
Partially condemned	28	3	0	0	17
West End, Marden -					
No. examined	263	625	1	0	133
Completely condemned	0	0	0	0	0
Partially condemned	39	33	1	0	33

MEAT INSPECTION

Carcases examined have increased slightly over the previous year. All carcasses involved have been for the trade of the butchers owning the slaughterhouses and an excellent standard has been maintained.

It will be noted that it was not necessary to condemn any bovine carcasses for tuberculosis which indicates the success of the tuberculosis eradication scheme.

100% inspection of all carcasses slaughtered within the area has been achieved and the excellent relations between the department and the slaughterhouse operatives maintained.







MEAT INSPECTION

Reason for Condemnation

<u>Reason</u>	<u>Completely condemned</u>	<u>Partially condemned</u>
Abscesses	0	16
Pleurisy	0	10
Ascaris Lumbricoides	0	31
Pneumonia	0	14
Pericarditis	0	5
Parasitic infection	0	10
Cirrhosis	0	7
Cysticercus Bovis	0	4
Peritonitis	0	5
Congestion	0	4
Fractures and Bruising	0	6
Arthritis	0	1
Liver Fluke	0	45
Cysticercus Ovis	0	4
Pylonephritis	0	1
Hydronephrosis	0	1
Tumour	0	1
Oedema	0	1
Tuberculosis	0	1

Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order, 1957

There has been no increase in the number of registered plants within the area during the year. No complaints concerning the operation of these plants have been received and routine visits to ensure that operators meet their obligations under the above Order have been carried out wherever possible.



FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Details of samples taken by the County Sampling  
Officers within the MAIDSTONE RURAL DISTRICT  
during the year ended 31st December, 1965

<u>Article</u>	<u>No.</u>
Beer .. .. .	4
Blackcurrant Drink .. .. .	1
Chocolate Blancmange Powder .. .. .	1
Chopped Ham with Pork .. .. .	1
Coffee Crunch .. .. .	1
Dried Apricots .. .. .	2
Dried Prunes .. .. .	1
Drinking Chocolate .. .. .	1
Drugs and Medicines .. .. .	7
Gin .. .. .	3
Instant Coffee .. .. .	1
Milk .. .. .	22
Milk Chocolate Peanuts .. .. .	1
Orange Flavour Jelly .. .. .	1
Orange Drink .. .. .	1
Orange Jelly Marmalade .. .. .	1
Orange and Lemon Slices .. .. .	1
Peanuts in Milk Chocolate .. .. .	1
Plain Chocolate Nut Brittle .. .. .	1
Potted Beef with Butter .. .. .	1
Sultanas .. .. .	1
Tea .. .. .	2
Whisky .. .. .	1
Total ..	<u>57</u>

Summary

Milk .. ..	22
Drugs .. ..	7
Spirits .. ..	4
Other samples .. ..	24
	<u>57</u>

It is pleasing to report that, with the exception of three of the beer samples, all the above samples were found on analysis to be genuine. As regards the beer samples, an investigation was carried out with the brewers where the original gravity of bitter beer was shown to be less than that which would be expected of this particular beer.



FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955 (Cont'd.)

ICE CREAM

<u>Number of Samples</u>	<u>Methylene Blue Test Group</u>	<u>Pathogenic organisms cultivated</u>
17	I	0
3	II	0
0	III	0
0	IV	0

Samples of ice cream sold within the area have been obtained during the year. Such samples are submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination. Endeavours are made to ensure that a reasonable cross section of various manufacturers' products are sampled as a safeguard.

It will be noted that all the results fall within Groups I and II which indicates a satisfactory product.

It was noted on a few occasions during the year that the wholesalers were delivering ice cream in a soft condition. Although samples taken indicated no cause for concern, the matter was taken up with the manufacturers who made efforts to see that such practices were not repeated.

Power failure on one occasion affecting a retailer's refrigerator could have affected the quality of the ice cream stored. In this instance the matter was resolved by the manufacturers accepting the return and subsequent replacement of stock.





# RODENT CONTROL

## Summary of Inspections and Surveys made under Rodent Control

	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agri- cultural	All Other (including Business Premises)	Total
Total number of properties in Local Authority's area	11	6,860	1,138	799	8,808
Number of properties inspected as a result of Notification	0	499	5	15	519
Number of properties inspected as a result of Survey or otherwise	11	0	40	356	407
Total number of inspections and re-inspections carried out	140	1,957	364	202	2,663
Number of properties inspected found to be infested by :-	Rats 8	480	5	11	504
	Mice 0	19	0	4	23
Number of infested properties treated by Local Authority (completed)	8	499	45	15	567
Total treatments carried out, including re-treatments (completed)	32	543	91	60	726
Number of "Block" control schemes carried out	46				

An active programme of rodent control within the area has been carried out. The programme has involved the treatment of private dwellings, farms and the local authority's own premises i.e., refuse tip and sewage plants. The total number of inspections and treatments made has increased and must be related to the residential development which is taking place.

A comparison test baiting was carried out in all the sewers within the district and the results indicated no infestation.

Mr. Curties, your Rodent Operator, has continued to carry out his duties in an efficient manner and ensured the success of the contract system afforded to farmers and business premises.



Birth-rates, Death-rates and Analysis of Mortality in the year, 1965

Area	Rate per 1,000 population	Annual Death-rate per 1,000 population				Rate per 1,000	
		All causes	Tuberculosis	Cancer of Lung	Other cancer	Live Births	Related Births
	Live births					Total deaths under 1 year	Stillbirths
England and Wales	18.0	11.5	.04	.55	1.67	19.0	15.7
Hollingbourn R.D.	21.29	11.51	.16	.70	1.67	13.96	16.48
Maidstone R.D.	24.13	8.95	-	.37	1.89	9.22	19.89
Malling R.D.	22.66	11.31	.23	.63	1.39	15.98	9.67
Maidstone Borough	18.61	10.94	.10	.56	1.41	18.04	14.39
County of Kent	19.65	10.35	.05	.59	1.69	17.03	14.05



# GENERAL SUMMARY

Estimated resident population, 1965	..	..	23,800
Area (in acres)	..	..	34,487
Density	..	..	.690
Annual Birth Rate per 1,000 population			
Crude	..	..	22.77
Corrected	..	..	24.13
Annual Death Rate per 1,000 population			
Crude	..	..	12.10
Corrected	..	..	8.95
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Births	..	..	542
Deaths	..	..	288
Excess of births over deaths	124	130	254
Tuberculosis death rate -			
Pulmonary	..	..	Nil
Non-pulmonary	..	..	Nil
Cancer death rate per 1,000 population	..	..	2.26





# INDEX

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Page No.</u>
Animal Boarding Establishments Act .. .. .	39
Birth-rate, Death-rate and Analysis of Mortality ..	50
Camping Sites and Caravans .. .. .	38
Cancer .. .. .	12
Clean Air Act .. .. .	39
Comparison of Summary figures with 1964 .. ..	26,30
Cesspool Emptying .. .. .	24
Deaths per month in each Parish .. .. .	16
Departmental Work - General Report .. .. .	26
Diseases of Animals (Waste Food) Order, 1957 ..	46
Drainage and Sanitation .. .. .	24
Factories and Workplaces .. .. .	33
Food and Drugs Act .. .. .	47,48
Food Poisoning .. .. .	13
Food Premises - Inspection and Supervision of ..	40,41
General Provision of Health Services .. .. .	5
General Statistics - Drainage .. .. .	27
General Statistics - Housing .. .. .	27
General Statistics - Housing Defects .. .. .	27
General Statistics - Improvement Grants .. ..	30
General Statistics - Infectious Diseases .. ..	32
General Summary .. .. .	51
Hop Pickers' Camps .. .. .	39
Housing .. .. .	28,29
Ice Cream .. .. .	48
Immunisation .. .. .	9
Improvement Grants .. .. .	30,31
Infant Mortality .. .. .	14
Infectious and other Notifiable Diseases .. ..	
Analysis in Age Groups .. .. .	6
Monthly Distribution .. .. .	7
Litter Bins .. .. .	23
Meat Inspection .. .. .	44,45
Meat Inspection - Reason for Condemnation .. ..	46
Members of the Public Health Committee .. .. .	1
Milk Supplies .. .. .	41
National Assistance Acts, 1948 and 1951 .. ..	13
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act .. ..	41,42,43
Poliomyelitis Vaccination .. .. .	8
Presentation of Annual Report by M.O.H. .. ..	2,3
Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations, 1953	13
Public Health Officers .. .. .	1
Return by M.O.H. to H.M. Inspector of Factories ..	34,35,36,37
Rivers and Streams .. .. .	24
Rodent Control .. .. .	49
Refuse and Public Cleansing Service .. .. .	22,23,24
Sanitary Circumstances in the Area .. .. .	17
Sanitary Inspection of the Area .. .. .	17
Salvage .. .. .	23
Shops - Inspection and Supervision of .. .. .	40,41
Slaughterhouses .. .. .	44
Slaughterhouses in detail .. .. .	45
Smallpox Vaccination .. .. .	10
Statistics and Social Conditions of the area ..	4
Summary of Inspections .. .. .	25
Total Deaths 1965 .. .. .	15
Tuberculosis .. .. .	11
Vital Statistics - Extracts from .. .. .	4
Water Supplies .. .. .	18,19,20,21





